

folk dances with the resident students of the academy and told the backround of the dances. The sisters were very receptive and generous with their appreciation. Sister Leona and Mother Loyola were gracious hosts to us.

We left that same late afternoon for Cleveland. We tried to short-cut and ran into more detours and mud, but luckily we hit the highway before it got too dark. We got our flat tire near Lisbon, Ohio, and we decided to stay there over night. The weather was commencing to become nasty. We passed many swollen rivers but we never thought that within a few days all of Ohio will be buried under its worst snow. We came to Cleveland about noontime, met Leonard Austin and Mrs. Winifred Hodges for lunch, and in the evening we went to the home of my old friend, Michael Lamont, who was our host. After a real Italian dinner, cooked at home, we had our session at the campus church hall; again, seeing more of our old friends and meeting new ones.

I had but a few days in Chicago, but they were dreadfully busy. I even had to give up Turkey (Thanksgiving Day) dinners, preparing VILTIS for printing and left for Chicago right after the session and after traveling a few hours we slept for the night and continued, arriving in Chicago on Tuesday afternoon, in time for my International House class.

#### Minnesota, Things In General

Nov. 26th I landed in Minneapolis and went right down to work: a class that evening with Morry Gelman's advanced group; sessions the following day and one in the evening at the YMCA in Minneapolis; Wednesday afternoon a session at the Coffma Union Bldg. of the University and a brief visit to the International Institute. Thanks to Francis Hanson I was able to run up to White Bear Lake and see the Welch's. I regretted greatly to find that Bill Welch, already a veteran with overseas duty, was drafted again. He said the shining glory of the Hamline U. Football team; now, for the second time his education was interrupted. Why must there be wars? Tho my visit in Minneapolis was brief and hectic, it was good to be there and see the good friends, even tho I was unable to see them all. "They is a good bunch, them Norskies and Svenskies from Scandisota".

On my way back I stopped over for one session in Winona and visited briefly with the Howard Daniels, who are the moving spirits of the Winona folk dance circles. we had a very enjoyable class. By midnight I left for Chicago and another "rush period", what with Xmas and the various programs and special rehearsals tied up with the holiday. One commences to acquire an apathy toward this "day -of-days" which has become so over

I started out this year somewhat "wrong" with all sorts of pains and aches (Yankee winter trouble), but managed to overcome them with flying colors and all is well now. I hope it stays that way. commercialized. Ah me.

I enjoyed midnight Mass at St. Catherine of Genoa on Chicago's far South Side. A 92 voice choir, well trained by Mr. Stanley Rakas, sang the Mass of the Shepherds by Yon. Before the Mass started, a choir of acolytes, 14 youngsters from the ages of 7 to 11, paraded up to the crib and sang a group of carols most enchantingly. Beautiful music enhances services; it is spiritually uplifting and a pleasure to attend.

Otherwise, I was busy as the dickens. Classes every night: Jewish, French, Hungarian, Lithuanian, International House and McCormick YWCA. VILTIS is a terrific task and it has me running in circles, not to men-



"Me and Mike." Michael Lamont (right) is involved neck-deep in folk dancing and the Co-op movement of Cleveland, Ohio, both of which are a part of his life for the last 15-20 years. Mr. and Mrs. Lamont are proud parents of two beautiful girls.

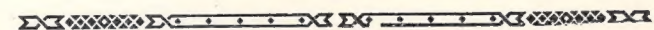
tion various other obligations.

The winter was "gorsh-awful". It might be alright for Yankees, Laplanders and Eskimos, but not being either of these, I had a hard time with this miserable, slushy, snowy, sub-zero winter. Ah me! Freezing during the winter in Chicago and during the summer in San Francisco. Thanks to the Minnesotans who presented me with a fur cap, and, tho I looked like a Korean, it kept me warm.

March was a mad month. My new book, the "Dance of Lietuva" was coming out and I had to run around the publishers. VILTIS was coming out and that required a great deal. The sponsoring of the Anniversary dance needed attention and sending out notification. Uncle Stanley passed away and Kazy was leaving for the service all in the same week. I've "forced" all people visiting me to help me out with addressing and other details. Jimmy Casebere, from Fairhope, Ala., whom I haven't seen since the last war, now on his way again, even he too had to sit down at the typewriter and address the labels to all the subscribers for my new book. On top of it all I also had to prepare a new book for the Co-op Recreation which will contain Lithuanian folk songs, folk games (table and outdoor), play party games, folk dances and legends. Not to mention the regular tasks of correspondence, classes each night, programs week-ends . . . "Poh lil me."

With April 3rd I'll be on the road again. First, a few days in St. Louis to attend the National Festival and on the 16th for an extended trip which will last until next winter. I'll be in East (Detroit, Canada, Rockport, Buffalo, State College (Pa.), Pittsburgh, Wheeling (W. Va.), etc., etc.). My Eastern tour will terminate on June 11th and I'll be due in Provo, Utah about June 13th. After three weeks in Provo I'll continue going further West. You all just continue writing. The letters will catch up with me and VILTIS will be coming out. It always did.

Pasimatysim — Vyts-Fin



#### FINNY'S FUNNIES

It isn't tying himself to one woman that a man dreads when he thinks of marrying -- it's separating himself from all the others.

An egotist is a guy always me-deep in conversation  
A woman's face is her fortune -- and sometimes it runs into a nice figure.



#### Domicile Aldonis

VILTIS expresses its profound regrets to Bruno Aldonis upon the death of his mother on January 15. Her husband, Mr. Frank Aldonis, a daughter, Mrs. Stella Petkus and another son, Anthony, are other members of the immediate family who remained behind to mourn her passing. Interment took place at St. Casimir's Lithuanian cemetery on January 18th.

Bruno Aldonis will be remembered to many Vilties as the leader of the folk orchestra who furish the music at the VILTIS concerts.

#### Raymond Gulbinas

Tragedy struck the Gulbinas family and the Lithuanian University Club when an automobile seriously injured Raymond Gulbinas, January 17th. Ray died the following morning at the age of 30. During the war he was a Naval lietenant and a graduate of the Illinois Institute of Technology.

Ray was the president of the Lithuanian University Club, and it was while in the line of service for his club that he met his untimely death. He and the vice president of the club were handing posters advertising their festival, when a car ran into them, injuring both. Ironically enough the festival fell on the same day on which his funeral was held, Jan. 20th. solace to the berieved.

Viltis is grieved with the tragedy and expresses its

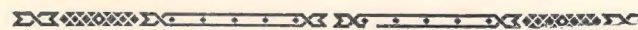
#### Roy Qually

VILTIS, along with all the Wisconsin folk and square dance friends of the Qually's, and they were legions, grieve greatly at the passing of a truly fine man, Mr. Roy Qually of Oshkosh, who passed away on Tuesday, January 13th and buried at the Peace Lutheran Cemetery of Oshkosh, on January 16th. His sincerely friendly disposition will be remembered by all who knew Roy. Eternal rest to Roy and our condolences to his wife, Irene Qually.

#### Mr.. Stanley (Stasys) Rozgus

Condolence is extended to Mrs. Palina Urbutis (nee Rozgus) upon the death of her only surviving brother Mr. Stanley Rozgus. on March 11th at Hines Veterans Hospital, Chicago. The funeral took place at the Lithuanian National Cemetery on March 15th.

Our condolence is extended to Mrs. Louise Levy of Cincinnati, Ohio, on the recent death of her father. Alav Alav Ha shalom.



MANY THANKS AND "ACIUS"

Many thanks (and sincere ones at that) to John Taylor (New Jersean) and Russell Crosby (Floridan), friends stationed at Great Lakes, and to Ann Sereika, for the help on this issue of VILTIS. I would have been in a "pickle" ifnot for their help. Again, "thank you".

#### VILTIS

V. F. BELIAJUS, 1028 E. 63rd St., Chicago 37, Illinois.

#### A LETTER FROM SOUTH INDIA

Here in India we have very few opportunities for folk dancing but last summer when we went to the mountains to escape from the scorching tropical heat we had some very good groups with people from Scotland, New dances. I taught some of the Czech and Moravian dances Zealand, England, Denmark, etc. introducing their own which I learned from you. Your folk dance books were very useful.

I have been very much interested in the classical Hindu dance -- only as a spectator, of course. When I begin to think that I understand India I go to see a classical dance and I am reminded that there is a mysterious element in Hindu culture which probably no Westerner will ever understand. However, many of the dance positions are similar to those I have seen you do in the Semitic dances. How I look forward seeing another folk dance festival! The Slavic dances especially have always appealed to me.

Thenews for the year is that we are coming home! We have a passage booked on the SS Maloja leaving Bombay on April 5th, 1951. We expect to have about ten days in England and Scotland and then home arriving in the middle of May.

As ever, Eugene Ten Brink (Rev.)  
Katpadi, N. Arcot, South India.

#### From Our Cover Boy

I enjoyed "Wha Hoppen To Square Dancing" But hasten to correct your impression that this divorcing of square from European folk dancing originated in Northern California (Did I say that? VFB) It started in the Los Angeles area. We are only beginning to feel the repercussions up here. I hope we can stop it in S.F. Bay area before it leads to the difficulties that Southern California is experiencing. Many groups down there have folded completely, and there has been much name calling, with certain leaders being declared "communist" for taching European dancing. Too many people dubbed themselves "teachers", simply because they were fooled by the seeded nothing in the way of research or dance art, and to ming simplicity of folk dancing. These people contribute their embarrassment resorted to using anything, as long as they could find followers.

There are some in the Bay Area who have good reputation and established leadership ability who should be ashamed of some of the things they are representing as "folk dances". When I have spoken to those people about this, they simply look surprised and say, "Why, I am just following the trend of what the public wants!" They do not seem to be aware that they are the ones who are responsible for the "trend", and the public is following them in pure ignorance. I am unhappy to see that Lloyd Shaw is caught in this mesh, too, and isturning out "American folk dances".

I have no objection to any kind of dancing, but I do not approve of using a folk dance movement to promote phony ideas. I feel that an experimental group to promote new dance expressions would certainly be very valuable to America, but the place of such a group is NOT in one dedicated to preserving traditional dance forms. I do not feel that the American Square is expressive of the 20th century, and would like to see a more representative dance form created, but I know this cannot be done by dissecting European folk dances or 19th century American Squares and reassembling them to "Yes, We Have No Bananas Today."

Virgil Morton. San Francisco, Calif.